

**MINUTES OF THE  
SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Monday, January 29, 2018 • 7:59 a.m. • 30 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Senate Chair  
Rep. Paul Ray, House Chair  
Rep. Raymond P. Ward, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Luz Escamilla  
Sen. Daniel Hemmert  
Sen. Todd Weiler  
Sen. Brian Zehnder  
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck  
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards  
Rep. Timothy D. Hawkes  
Rep. Sandra Hollins  
Rep. Michael S. Kennedy

Rep. Edward H. Redd  
Rep. Norman K. Thurston

**Members Absent:**

President Wayne L. Niederhauser  
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell

**Staff Present:**

Ms. Alysha S. Gardner, Staff Economist  
Ms. Paula Morgan, Committee Secretary  
Mr. Russell T. Frandsen, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Clare Tobin Lence, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Debbie Benson, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Rep. Ray called the meeting to order at 8:22 AM.

**1 . DHS - Office of Recovery Services (ORS) - Base Budget**

Clare Tobin Lence, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, discussed items from the Budget Reduction Options Sheet beginning with item #50 Reduce Health Claim Collections Staff and #51 Use increased Child Support Collections Processing Fee.

Liesa Stockdale, Director, Office of Recovery Services (ORS), Department of Human Services (DHS), commented in agreement on the information given about the reductions.

Ms. Lence continued with her presentation of Revenue and Expenditure Trends including:

[5b-ORS - Purposes - 2018 GS](#)

5c Fund Balances

5d Federal Funds

5e Collections and Costs

Ms. Stockdale responded to information from the Collections and Costs document. Ms. Stockdale and Rep. Ray had conversation about the figures presented by Ms. Lence.

Ms. Lence presented figures on the General Fund collections related to ORS work.

Ms. Lence continued with agenda item 5F - Department of Health (DOH) and Medicaid Collection Changes.

Ms. Stockdale referred to a conversation she had with DOH and indicated that some technical changes would need to take place.

Ms. Lence continued with the Budget Deep-Dive into Medicaid Reimbursement Rates and stated they would come back to that issue.

Ms. Lence explained the Motions for Subcommittee Consideration #1B Federal Funds, #5X Line Item Performance Measures, #5AK Fund Performance Measures.

## **2 . DHS - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) - Base Budget**

Ms. Lence explained reduction item #59 Jail Based Forensic Competency Restoration - Start-Up Costs.

Dallas Earnshaw, Superintendent, Utah State Hospital, DHS, responded positively to the cut and explained their need.

Ms. Lence continued with reduction item #63 Reduce Funding for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Conferences.

Brent Kelsey, Assistant Director, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH), DHS, testified about the training they offer and the fees charged.

Rep. Kennedy requested the amount charged for the training as well as clarification on the fee charged. Mr. Kelsey responded with the reason for the fee charged. There was continued discussion.

Jeremy Christensen, Assistant Director, DSAMH, contributed to the discussion about the training needs.

Ms. Lence explained reduction item #61 Transfer Cost of In-Patient Acute Care to Local Authorities.

Mr. Earnshaw responded.

Ms. Lence discussed reduction item #62 Transfer Funding for State Hospital Adult Civil Beds to Local Authorities.

Sen. Christensen clarified.

Rep. Thurston asked for further clarification and Ms. Lence explained. There was further comment and discussion.

Sen. Christensen helped to clarify.

Mr. Earnshaw further clarified by sharing specifics about requirements for the hospital.

Mr. Christensen continued with an explanation about the cost of beds and numbers of beds available.

Rep. Redd added to the discussion.

Mr. Earnshaw added more details about the bed issue at the hospital.

There was continued input from Rep. Redd.

Lincoln Shurtz, Director of Government Affairs, Utah Association of Counties, referenced the discussion and costs from the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) and the desire to have more time to understand the situation better.

Brandon Hatch, Director, Davis Behavioral Health, presented the situation in Davis County. Rep. Ray commented on the jail situation.

Rep. Thurston referred to a story in news and a man's release into the community because he could not be restored to competency.

Mr. Hatch responded that he wasn't familiar with that situation.

Mr. Christensen responded to the situation in question.

Rep. Thurston and Mr. Christensen continued the discussion.

Greg Bell, President, Utah Hospital Association, referenced a story in the Deseret News and explained the situation of individuals being hospitalized. He also requested the committee to wait on this reduction for a study to be made.

Rep. Redd shared input about the behavioral health units in a hospital and the reasons for patients in the unit.

Rep. Ray shared an experience his daughter had.

Ms. Lence continued with reduction item #58 End Weber Behavioral Health Funding.

Michelle Jensen, Director of Compliance and Quality, Weber Human Services, reported on the program called Health Connections, a behavioral health medical home.

Russ Elbel, Medicaid Program Director, Select Health, continued with more explanation of the presentation.

Rep. Redd asked a question about co-located facilities for mental and physical health and Ms. Jensen responded. Rep. Redd and Ms. Jensen continued their discussion.

Rep. Ward asked for clarification from Mr. Elbel about the data portal. Mr. Elbel and Ms. Jensen clarified the use of the data portal and its access.

Rep. Thurston questioned the cut even though it is resulting in better care. Mr. Elbel and Ms. Jensen responded.

Ms. Lence introduced reduction item #64 DHS - End Positive Action Assistance Group (PAAG) Funding.

Jan Dogmaster, Past Chair, PAAG Board, spoke about the original establishment of the board for PAAG as well as progress made and requested continued funding.

Jeff Himes, a participant with PAAG for 17 years, testified in behalf of PAAG.

Rhett Potter, Director, PAAG, testified on the purpose of PAAG and the necessity for it.

**MOTION:** Sen. Christensen moved to approve the following motions from the sheet entitled "Social Services Subcommittee - Motions for Subcommittee Consideration" dated 1/22/2018 10:45 AM for the Department of Human Services: #5X, 5AK. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 4 .

Yeas-12

Rep. R. Chavez-Houck  
Sen. A. Christensen  
Rep. R. Edwards  
Rep. T. Hawkes  
Sen. D. Hemmert  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Rep. M. Kennedy  
Rep. P. Ray  
Rep. N. Thurston  
Rep. R. Ward  
Sen. T. Weiler  
Sen. B. Zehnder

Nays-0

Absent-4

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. W. Niederhauser  
Rep. E. Redd  
Sen. K. Van Tassell

Ms. Lence presented items from the Motions for Subcommittee Consideration sheet #1AJ Dedicated Credits Increase for Medicare Collections, #1AK Dedicated Credits Increase for Settlement Funds and Non-Federal Grants, #4O Nonlapsing Intent Language, #5V Line Item Performance Measures, and #5AF and #5AJ Fund Performance Measures.

**MOTION:** Sen. Christensen moved to approve the following motions from the sheet entitled "Social Services Subcommittee - Motions for Subcommittee Consideration" dated 1/22/2018 10:45 AM for the Department of Human Services: #1AJ, 1AK, 4O, 5V, 5AF, 5AJ. The motion passed with a vote of 12 - 0 - 4 .

Yeas-12

Rep. R. Chavez-Houck  
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Rep. N. Thurston  
Rep. R. Ward  
Sen. T. Weiler  
Sen. B. Zehnder

Nays-0

Absent-4

Sen. L. Escamilla  
Sen. W. Niederhauser  
Rep. E. Redd  
Sen. K. Van Tassell

Ms. Lence addressed agenda item 6c - DSAMH Fund Balances and Federal Funds.

Doug Thomas, Director, DSAMH, explained the grants and the request for federal funds including State Youth Treatment Implementation.

**3 . Budget Deep-Dive into Substance Use Disorder Treatment: Follow-Up Report**

[7a-Issue Brief - 2017 Interim - Budget Deep-Dive into Substance Use Disorder Treatment](#)

Mr. Thomas reported on the Substance Use Disorder Follow-Up Report results.

**4 . Drug Offender Reform Act (DORA) Oversight Committee Report**

[8c-DORA Oversight Committee Report](#)

[8d-DORA Oversight Committee Presentation](#)

[8b-DORA Performance Measures](#)

Mary Lou Emerson, Director, Utah Substance Abuse and Mental Health Advisory Council (USAAV+), introduced visitors and the Drug Offender Reform Act (DORA) Oversight Committee as well as gave an explanation of the purpose of DORA.

Desmond Lomax, Director of Community Programming, Department of Corrections, and Vice-Chair, DORA Oversight Committee, addressed and explained the need for DORA.

Mr. Kelsey continued with the purpose for DORA and its effectiveness.

Rep. Ray referred to a document that was passed out and asked for a clarification on some changes that have taken place. Mr. Kelsey explained.

Richard Nance, Director, Utah County Department of Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Treatment, and Chair, DORA Oversight Committee, continued to explain the DORA performance information with input from Mr. Kelsey.

Rep. Kennedy asked about how Medicaid expansion would assist with payment and Mr. Nance responded with further comments by Rep. Kennedy.

#### [8c-DORA Oversight Committee Report](#)

Sen. Christensen asked Mr. Kelsey if money were available would he spend it on DORA and Mr. Kelsey explained the function of DORA, how it has progressed and the need for it. Sen. Christensen and Mr. Kelsey continued discussion on the matter.

Rep. Ward requested clarification on the Weber Human Services Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) Domain Effectiveness graph being presented. Mr. Kelsey responded.

Rep. Chavez-Houck commented on being mindful of individuals not just the aggregate population in treatments.

Mr. Nance agreed with being cognizant of individual essential needs. He continued with explanation of the information in the documents. There was continued comment by Rep. Chavez-Houck. Mr. Nance continued.

### **5 . Staffing Issues at the State Hospital**

Mr. Earnshaw addressed the issue of staffing.

Rep. Ward asked for the definition of a psychiatric technician and Mr. Earnshaw responded.

### **6 . Effectiveness of State Funding for Methadone and Suboxone Treatment of Opioid**

Mr. Kelsey thanked the committee for last appropriation and reviewed funding that has been available to them and how they have been used as well as the change in types of services needed.

Rep. Ray asked a question about tapering off using methadone and Mr. Kelsey answered his question.

Mr. Thomas added comment to the discussion about policy changes.

Rep. Ward asked a question about the pool of prescribers available to perform treatment. Mr. Kelsey explained the procedures in question about prescribing medication.

**MOTION:** Rep. Chavez-Houck moved to adjourn at 11:00 AM.

Rep. Ray adjourned the meeting.